

February 28, 1975

CLERK: Mr. President, there is a unanimous consent request to lay 193 over until Monday. Signed Senator Frank Lewis.

SPEAKER: Senator Lewis.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: That's my request.

SPEAKER: OK. All those in favor...unanimous consent. Any opposition. Hearing none, the bill is laid over until Monday. LB 200

CLERK: LB 200 introduced by Senator Dworak of the 22nd District. Read title. There are Committee amendments by Senator Fowler's Urban Affairs Committee.

SPEAKER: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, this bill deals with power of mayors in the city of first classes to grant pardons to people. Power that probably no one even knew existed until the mayor in Columbus started using it. The amendment is simply to change it. The issue is whether or not the mayor could reinstate a driver's license to someone who has had their license revoked by loss of points and the amendment was presented by Senator Dworak and agreed to by the Department of Motor Vehicles as a substitute for the language in the bill and the Committee accepted that and I think after adoption of this, Senator Dworak can explain the concept he wants.

SPEAKER: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: I guess I have got to have the good Senator that is chairman of the Urban Affairs Committee explain that better than he did. He went through that so fast I couldn't follow him. Does this mean the mayor's powers have been revoked?

SENATOR FOWLER: The amendment...sorry, I moved so fast there, Senator Barnett. The amendment would, what it would do is simply indicate that the mayor could grant a pardon. It would not take away his power to pardon. However, that would have no impact on the points taken away by the Department of Motor Vehicle so that the pardon would basically maybe remove a municipal fine or something like that but it could not restore a driver's license that was going to be revoked to a poor driving record.

SPEAKER: Senator Dworak. The chair recognizes Senator Dworak. Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: I got my question answered. I might like, you know, I would like to see the amendment not adopted under these circumstances because I guess I can't understand why the mayor has these strange powers and I think we should not adopt this amendment and go with the first bill that Senator Dworak had. I think that to give these mayors this type of power can make them play God in these towns where they are elected. I think we should dispose of the Committee amendments and take the bill in its original form.

SPEAKER: The chair recognizes Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature,